

Bulletin of the Native Plant Society of Oregon

Dedicated to the enjoyment, conservation, and study of Oregon's native vegetation

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Catherine Creek Alert -- Page 126

State News

Jan. 28, Sat.

State Board Meeting: In Eugene. Details in future Bulletins

Spring 1995

Annual Meeting: In Portland. Details in future Bulletins.

Chapter News

Blue Mountain

Meeting: No meeting in October.

Corvallis

Oct. 10, Mon.

Meeting: 7:30 P.M. Room 2087, Cordley Hall, OSU campus. Tom Kaye will talk on

the re-introduction of pink sand verbena.

Emerald

Oct. 24, Mon.

Meeting: 7 P.M., at Morse Ranch Park. Directions from downtown Eugene: Take Willamette St. south to Crest Dr. (right through "Y" for Donald, between 32nd and 33rd Aves. E). Go right (W) on Crest 4 blocks, turn right into Morse Ranch parking lot. Chris Orsinger, president of the Friends of Buford Park/Mt. Pisgah, will give a talk and slide show on native plant restoration, inventory and mapping at Buford Park/Mt. Pisgah. He will also present future management plans, including land acquisition and riparian restoration for the complex of lands at the confluence of the coast and middle forks of the Willamette River.

High Desert

Oct. 25, Tues.

Meeting: 7 P.M. at Central Oregon Environmental Center, 16 Nw Kansas, Bend. A Nature Conservancy ecologist will talk about prescribed fire and fire ecology at the Lawrence Memorial Grassland Preserve. Call Cindi O'Neil, 389-3085 for questions.

NPSO Bulletin 119

Mid-Columbia

Oct. 5, Wed. Meeting: 7:30 P.M. at Mosier School. We are pleased to have Keith Karroly, botany

professor at Reed College, who will present a program on plant mating systems in lu-

pines, meadowrues and glacier-lilies.

Nov. 2, Wed. Meeting: 7;30 P.M. at Mosier School. Karen Sturgeon, botany professor at Linfield

College presents: "Church bells, cow bells and harebells; botanizing in the Swiss

Alps.

North Coast

Oct. 25, Tues. Meeting: 7 P.M. Room 5, Nehalem Bay Center, 36155 9th St., Nehalem. Planning

session for field trips, programs and projects for the coming year.

Portland

Oct. 8, Sat. Field Trip: Mt. Hood Meadows, to help restore heavily impacted area, with USFS

botanist, Susan Nugent, 352-6002. No strenuous hiking, but digging and plugging will give exercise. Take gloves. Tools supplied. Meet at ODOT, NE 60th & Glisan, 8 A.M. 2nd meeting place, Mt. Hood Meadows Ski Area parking lot, 10 to 10:15 A.M.

Oct. 11, Tues. Meeting: 7 P.M. First Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson St., Portland. Nancy

Fredricks will present a program called "Plants and Fungi in Late Successional and Old Growth Forests; How the President's Plan Will Address Them." Nancy contributed to this part of the president's plan and will provide an authoritative view of how

the plan should work. (The room will open at 6:30 P.M. for socializing.)

Oct. 15, Sat. Field Trip: 2-4 P.M. Native plant landscape tour of suburban yard in Aloha, with

Mike McKeag and Kathleen McAllister, 642-3965. (Since moving into their new house, Mike and Kathleen have spent the last three years going native, while their neighbors have planted lawns. Discuss techniques, issues and designs and come away with some free red fescue. Their landscape architect, Gretchen Vadny, will also be on hand. Meet at Newport Bay parking lot, 185th and Sunset Highway, at 2 P.M., to

car pool. Call Mike to register. Limited to ten persons.

Oct. 16, Sun.

Field Trip: Mirror Lake, with U.S.F.S. pathologist, Diane Hildebrand, 326-6697, to

discuss some of the pathologies that attack our native trees, shrubs and other plants. Meet at Oregon Department of Transportation, 60th and Glisan, 9 A.M., or Mirror

Lake parking lot area, on Hwy. 26, at 10:30 A.M.

Siskiyou

Oct. 20, Thurs. Meeting: 7:30 P.M., room 171, Science Building, SOSC, Ashland. Dr. David

Wagner presents "Wagner's Worts -- liverworts and moonworts -- botanical explorations -- slides and specimens." More attention is being given to these species at present, since being listed in the Record of Decision for the "President's Plan" for

forest management.

South Coast

Call Paul Bakke, 439-7234, for information on activities.

Umpqua Valley

Oct. 13, Thurs. Meeting: 7 P.M., room 310, Douglas County Courthouse. Please bring slides and/or

NPSO Bulletin 120 October 1994

stories about your summer activities. Call 672-5903, for information.

Oct. 15, Sat. Work Day: 8 A.M., BLM office, 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd. A short work day to set stakes and place plaques to identify trees, shrubs and other plants in the BLM

yard. Call Russ Holmes, 672-4635, for information. Shouldn't take more than 2 hours

Oct. 29, Sat. Field Trip: To Mare's Eggs Springs, near Fort Klamath, to see the rare Nostoc algae. If possible, we also plant to visit a rock formation called Football Scarp. Jack Stubbs and Jack Hausotter will co-lead. Meet at BLM parking lot, 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., for car pooling. 7:30 A.M. departure. Call 672-5903, for information.

Willamette Valley

Meeting: 7 P.M. United Methodist Church, 600 State St. NE, Salem. Glenn and Barbara Halliday will give slide presentation of a wildflower tour of southeastern Oregon.

Wm. Cusick

Oct. 25, Tues. Meeting: Opening meeting of the winter season. Volleyball at Birnie Park, 5:30 P.M., followed by a potluck supper at the La Grande Forest Sciences Lab., Gekeler

and C Avenue. There will be slide show on a topic to be announced. Call Bob Otters-

berg, 963-6043, for more information.

Oct. 29, Sat. Fun Work Party: 1 P.M. Gangloss Park. Nature trail/work party/potluck picnic. For

more information call Bob Ottersberg, 963-6043.

IMPORTANT NOTE TO FIELD TRIP PARTICIPANTS

Field trips take place rain or shine, so proper dress and footwear are essential. Trips may be strenuous and/or hazardous. Participation is at your own risk. Please contact the trip leader or chapter representative about difficulty, distance, and terrain to be expected on field trips. Bring water and lunch. All NPSO field trips are open to the public at no charge (other than contribution to carpool driver) and newcomers and visitors are always welcome.

NOTICE TO FIELD TRIP CHAIRS AND LEADERS

The Forest Service and other agencies have set policies limiting group size in many wilderness areas to 12. The reason is to limit human impacts on these fragile areas. Each group using wilderness areas should be no larger than 12.

Guidelines for Contributors to the Bulletin

NPSO Bulletin published monthly as a service to members and the public. All kinds of contributions welcome. Copy due by the 10th of the month.

CREDITS: Identify author and affiliation. If not original, cite source and date. ILLUSTRATIONS: Line drawings, prints and high contrast black-and-white prints are useable. Some McIntosh graphics can be used. Contact editor for our current needs, or send illustrations with article.

BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE: Follow "Flora of the Pacific Northwest" by Hitchcock, or "The Jepson Manual," where appropriate.

FORMAT: Submissions can be in any form, but at present editor prefers hard copy. Use of a modem is not possible at this time. Editor follows "The Associated Press Stylebook." For further details consult editor.

ORIGINALS: Submissions are not returned, unless requested.

President's Column

A few comments about the election next month. Ballot measure 14 will add operating and reclamation requirements to chemical mining, ban chemical releases into the environment, require backfilling of open pits. This ballot measure is targeted primarily at cyanide leach gold mining. It is sponsored by STOP'M (Stop Toxic Open PIt Mines). Currently, Oregon is the only western state not yet plagued by open pit cyanide leach gold mining. This process removes large quantities of rock which contains tiny flecks of gold. The gold is leached out of the rock with cyanide. Following the mining, all that typically remains is a large open pit with a tailings pond laced with cyanide. The mining interests say this measure will make it unprofitable to operate open pit mines.

Many areas in southeast Oregon already have existing claims, and according to Gary Brown, from STOP"M in Ontario, many of these claims, if mining occurs, would impact sensitive species. Some of these claims are apparently near Succor Creek. Gary adds that the USGS feels there is a 90% likelihood of seven or eight open pit gold mines occurring in the near future. Many claimants of these large gold mines are foreign companies, having no interest in reclamation following the mining, leaving the clean-up costs to U.S. taxpayers. I urge all NPSO members to vote YES on this measure.

In this month's Bulletin you will see a letter to Denny Smith, in reply to his comments about Siskiyou National Forest Botanist Linda Mullens' efforts to protect sensitive plants during wildfires this past summer. Mullens, and the forest archaeologist were guiding a bulldozer to avoid rare plants and some historic cabin sites, so that a backfire could be set which would prevent the fire from entering the Kalmiopsis Wilderness. Smith, who felt the Forest Service was more concerned about the plants, said the Endangered Species Act is "out of whack" and they "should have run the guy over." Earlier, he had made comments about "insignificant species" which receive more consideration than people, but felt that it is okay to set aside areas for gorillas (Oregon having so many). I am not going to make any endorsement for governor. But, do we want someone who thinks like this as our governor? I'll let you decide.

Finally, on a positive note, I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer, and had an opportunity to see

Oregon's native plants. And remember, spring is just around the corner (at least here on the south coast).

Bruce Rittenhouse NPSO President

August 20, 1994

Denny Smith Oregon Gubernatorial Candidate 4937 Indian School Road NE Salem, OR 97305

Dear Mr. Smith:

The Native Plant Society of Oregon (NPSO) would like to respond to your comments concerning Linda Mullens' efforts to protect sensitive plant species during the recent fires on the Siskiyou National Forest. We are a 33-year old nonprofit organization composed of nearly 1,000 amateur and professional botanists, "dedicated to the enjoyment, conservation and study of Oregon's native vegetation." The NPSO was instrumental in establishing the Oregon Endangered Species Act which passed both the House and Senate unanimously. We were appalled by your comments and feel they were inappropriate for someone seeking the governorship of Oregon. Your comments insulted Forest Service employees, NPSO members, and other who are concerned about Oregon's natural resources.

Employees of the Siskiyou National Forest have shown tremendous professionalism in their decision to allow a botanist and an archaeologist to work with the bulldozer operator during the recent Mendenhall fires. Their dedication to the conservation of unique natural resources is refreshing.

Botanist Linda Mullens is a highly regarded botanist by her peers and NPSO members alike, and her efforts may have actually helped prevent the future listing of seven sensitive plant species under the Endangered Species Act. The policy of federal land management agencies towards sensitive species is "not to contribute to the need to list." Therefore, this type of pro-active work should be rewarded, not chastised. Currently, only four plant species in Oregon are afforded protection under the Endangered Species Act, and none are known to occur in the area of the fires. We support the conservation of all plant species and it is unfortunate that some of these have to become listed.

Your personal judgements on "insignificant species" also need addressing. This shows your lack of knowledge on the importance of protecting biodiversity. Try explaining "insignificant species" to an ovarian cancer patient who was cured by taxol, a chemical derived from Pacific yew, which, ironically, was once thought of as a "trash tree." Currently, pharmaceutical and other private companies are investing millions of dollars into the research and development of medicines derived from "insignificant species." Maybe in the next 20 years another "insignificant species," such as a fungus, insect or plant may be the cure of some disease which saves human lives.

The fundamental reason why the Endangered Species Act was created is this lack of understanding the importance of maintaining ecosystems and biodiversity which are perpetuated by comments like yours. The original authors of the Endangered Species Act had long term natural resource conservation in mind. Federal land management is very complex, and inflammatory remarks, such as these, only create an adversarial atmosphere. It is hoped, that if you are elected governor, you will try to seek to understand the issues prior to making comments.

Sincerely,

Bruce Rittenhouse, President, Native Plant Society of Oregon

Copies of this letter have been sent to the following newspapers: Medford Mail Tribune, Eugene Register-Guard, Oregonian.

We Welcome New Members Who Joined From 7/10 to 9/5/94

Corvallis

Chris Hale Miller Reed Noss Patricia S. Shaw M. Gypsy Skylark

> Emerald Katy Young

High Desert Joe Carli Sandy George Cindy Lee Marcia J. Lux Reid Schuller Stephen Tiktin

North Coast Kathleen Sayce

Portland

Greg and Cynthia Bentley
Cheeri F. Brinda
Melody Hoener
Kathleen Kollock
Ginny E. Watts Kramer
Dawn L. Sanders
Mary Ann Sweet
Mark and Robin Tilton

Siskiyou

Don Begnoche
Shirley Boyce
Doug Goldenberg
Karen Hyneman and Gerald Starchvick
Randy Smith
Janet Wieberg

South Coast

Greg Enstrom Chris Cameron Jamie Fereday

William Cusick
Anne Oveson

Willamette Valley Rob Kimmich O.J. Sparrow

Members At Large
Joan Canfield
Joan Frazee
Jill Hackett
Durlin Hickock and Carol Wallace

Many Thanks

The State Membership Committee members wish to express their great appreciation for the donation of a computer to replace their failing one. We thank NPSO members Art and Mary May, for their generosity.

Jan and Dave Dobak

Environmental Laws in Danger

The Bulletin has received, from an NPSO member, a letter, signed by fifteen environmental organizations, about the continuing attack on all environmental laws, including the Endangered Species Act. The letter, slightly abridged, follows:

Dear Environmentalist:

You have never received a letter like this before. This is the first time the combined leadership of the nation's leading environmental groups have sent a single call to action to our combined memberships.

... It is an urgent appeal for citizen action... we ask you to write to President Clinton, your two senators and your representative in Congress.

Even during the Reagan/Watt/Gorsuch years, we have never faced such a serious threat to our environmental laws in Congress. Polluters have blocked virtually all our efforts to strengthen environmental laws, but still they are not satisfied. Now, they are mounting an all-out effort to weaken our most important laws.

In a recent briefing of public interest groups in Washington, D.C., Congressman Don Edwards "...as deep a crisis as any in all the years I've spent in Congress." Representative Edwards has served in Congress since 1963.

Many of our most important environmental laws are due to be renewed in Congress: The Clean Water Act, The Safe Drinking Water Act, The Endangered Species Act, Superfund, Wetlands Protection, laws to protect America's public lands and resources, laws to protect you from hazardous wastes and pesticides, laws to protect your health and your environment.

All these laws need to be strengthened. Polls show that the American public wants them to be more effective. But incredibly, Congress is poised to weaken them -- all of them.

The biggest strength of the environmental movement has always been its members and supporters. Yet it is the opponents of the environmental laws who are mounting the biggest and most effective grassroots campaigns in Congress. Congress is

hearing more from special interest groups who profit from pollution and from exploiting public lands and resources than from the majority of Americans who want to end pollution and protect our natural resources. ...

We can turn this around, with your help. We have won battles like this in the past, against seemingly insurmountable odds. We have passed laws like the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act over the opposition of the biggest and most powerful industrial lobbies in the country. We have protected our public lands and resources against assaults from the oil lobby, the timber lobby and the mining lobby. But we only won those fights when when people like you showed your support for clean air, clean water, and protecting America's remaining wildlife and wilderness.

The opponents of strong environmental laws have been effective because they have reduced their arguments to three simple but misleading anti-environmental messages.

"Takings" -- Industry claims that environmental laws take private property unfairly. In reality, they want us to pay them not to pollute our air and water and not to destroy our wildlife and public lands.

"Cost-Benefit and Comparative Risk Analysis" -- Polluters want to force the government to justify the benefits of environmental safeguards in monetary terms. But how can we value in dollars and cents the lives of our children, the health of our ecosystems and our right to breathe?

"Unfunded Federal Mandates" -- Many states and cities want environmental laws to be voluntary, unless the federal government pays for all state and local compliance costs. Doesn't your state and your town have a responsibility to protect the air you breathe and the water you drink?

These lies are being repeated loud enough and often enough that they are now accepted as truth by your senators and representatives in Washington, D.C. The best way to counter these lies is for the president, your senators and your representatives to hear **directly from you** loud enough and often enough for the real truth to emerge. It is not

enough to tell them you want stronger environmental laws. That alone cannot counter industry's sophisticated lobbying effort. You must tell your elected officials why you oppose the three anti-environmental arguments that industry is using.

... We urge you to fax or mail your letters or postcards immediately. If you don't have time to write to all your elected officials, then write to President Clinton and send copies to Congress. ...

If you want to have greater impact, then contact your representative when he or she is at home during Congressional recess. Let them know -- in person or on the phone -- why you oppose the arguments industry is using to weaken our environmental laws.

We are counting on your support. If millions of us work together, we can win this all-important battle to protect our nation's environment.

Sincerely,

The letter is signed by representatives of: American Oceans Campaign, Center for Marine Conservation, Defenders of Wildlife, Environmental Action Foundation, Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace U.S.A., League of Conservation Voters, National Audubon Society, National Parks and Conservation Association, National Wildlife Federation, Natural Resources Defense Council, Sierra Club, Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, The Wilderness Society, Zero Population Growth.

Citizen Action Guide: The Bulletin's editor has copies of the Citizen Action Guide that were sent with this letter. He will send a copy to anyone calling. The main goal is to respond to the three arguments listed above that are being made by the polluters, and to send your responses to your senators, your representative and the president. Individually worded letters are always said to be the most effective in campaigns of this kind. Telephone calls are also useful. Any library should be able to supply addresses and phone numbers. Also, see Bulletins of March and June, 1994.

Plants With Scary Names (and a few fungi)

bleedingheart **** bloodroot Boletus satanus ***boojum tree California strangler **chokecherry *** creeping charlie cleavers dead-nettle daggerpod deadly nightshade **** deadman's foot **** *** **** death camas death cap ***** destroying angel** Devil's dipstick* il's club**** dragonhead **felonwort ***** fetid adder's tongue ghost flower * hackberry * king devil * madwort *** medusa head ***** mother-in-law's tongue old-witch grass *panic grass * phantom orchid poison oak poison hemlock**** rattlesnake *skeleton-weed***skullcap plantain snakeweed***spider plant***tromp du mort ***viper's bugloss***wind witch***witch hazel witch's butter********wolf's bane*

Happy Halloween
-----Tom Kaye---Corvallis Chapter
???@#\$%^&&*((+})(*&^%\$#@!/?[{}]?????

MacFarlane's Four O'clock (Mirabilis macfarlanei)

This wildflower, a perennial found in Idaho and Oregon canyonlands, was proposed August 26, 1993, for reclassification to Threatened. MacFarlane's four o'clock is characterized by strikingly large magenta flowers atop stems that have oppositely arranged succulent leaves. IN 1979, when the species was listed as Endangered, only 25 to 30 plants in three colonies were known. Today, thanks to improvements in grazing management, the discovery of 15 additional colonies, and the stable status of these colonies, the species is estimated to number 8,600.

Reprinted from: Endangered Species Technical Bulletin, Vol. XVIII, No. 4 (1993), p. 21.

Catherine Creek Alert

Help the Forest Service Write a Management Plan for the Catherine Creek Natural Area (Columbia River Gorge)

Please Attend the Forest Service Workshop October 8, Hood River, Oregon

Workshop participants will be asked to come up with a "Desired Future Condition" for the Catherine Creek Natural Area. In 1989, the Washington Natural Heritage Program recommended three management objectives for this area of about twenty five hundred acres. They were to:

- (1) "maintain the site's natural diversity"
- (2) "improve the condition of plant communities"
- (3) "maintain viable populations of rare plant and animal species."

These objectives best define the "Desired Future Condition." Uses which conflict with these objectives should not be permitted. Two destructive uses -- cattle and motor vehicles -- have been excluded from Catherine Creek by Forest Service decisions. However, other incompatible activities, including horses, mountain bikes, firearm use, and camping remain threats. None of these uses is currently established at Catherine Creek, and it is vital that the Forest Service prevent them from becoming established.

Horses - The Washington Natural Heritage Program lists horseback riding as an incompatible use at Catherine Creek. Horses spread noxious weeds, cause soil disturbance and erosion, trample and eat plants, and cause user conflict with visitors on foot. As of September, 1994, there is no evidence of current or recent horse use in the Catherine Creek Natural Area, and it should not be allowed to get started.

Mountain Bikes - These cause many of the same problems as horses, but to a lesser degree. Since even foot travel may, in the future, need to be limited at Catherine Creek, it would be unwise to allow any vehicle use to get started.

Firearm Use - Shooting the wildlife upsets the natural diversity and balance. Also, hunting and target shooting are threats to human safety and should not be allowed at Catherine Creek, just as they are not allowed at Forest Service camp-

grounds or in state parks.

Please attend the October 8 workshop to oppose horses, wheels and guns at Catherine Creek. Don't miss this chance to strike a blow for wildflowers!!

Time: Saturday, October 8, 9:30 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Place: National Scenic Area office in Hood River. From I-84, take Exit 63 into downtown Hood River. Take first available right, continuing 4 blocks to 7th Street. Turn right on 7th to a large white building with plenty of parking. The workshop will be in the 3rd floor conference room.

Submitted by Russ Jolley Portland Chapter

MEMORIAL GIFT

Grayce Folsom has given the Native Plant Society of Oregon a gift, in memory of Dr. Lloyd G. Anderson. The Society is most grateful.

Volunteers Needed!

The NPSO State Board is seeking volunteers to serve on the nominating committee for candidates for next spring's election of officers. This is a very important service for our organization. Please consider serving. For more information, call Bruce Rittenhouse, President, Native Plant Society of Oregon. His home number is 888-9328. At work, he can be reached at 756-0100. His address is 550 Fillmore, Coos Bay, OR 97420.

Oregon Artist Features Native Plants

Longtime member of the NPSO, Mary Moffat, again shares her love of our native plants. During October, at Collier House, U of O campus, 1177 E. 13th, Eugene, her artworks will be shown from 8 A.M. to 6 P.M., Monday to Friday. Lunches are served from 11 A.M. to 6 P.M. The opening reception will be on October 7, from 7 to 9 P.M., following the First Friday Gallery Walk.

Mary draws directly from life, often enlarging her drawings many times over, for the final painting. She shows the process from beginning sketch to final product.

Those Wallowing Sedgeheads

Note: The following trip was sponsored in part by a grant from NPSO! Thank you!

The Carex Working Group (CWG) quietly and diligently continues to improve and expand recorded information about Oregon's sedges. For the past year or so, this group of dedicated "Sedgeheads" has been studying, teaching, collecting and examining specimens, striving to overcome botanical denial and perigynia paranoia, and working to upgrade the image of the once poohpoohed genus *Carex*. On August 7th, a core corps of convivial *Carex* commandos caravanned 1 from

Corvallis to canvass the NE Oregon countryside for (of course) Carices. The objectives of the trip included adding county sighting and collection records and learning to enjoy life.

From the outset, each of us (the four CWG members on the trip: Keli Kuykendall, Bruce Newhouse, Barbara Wilson and Peter Zika) made it clear that s/he would be in charge, and thereafter everything proceeded smoothly. Leaving Corvallis in the early afternoon resulted in our arrival in the Lostine River valley (on the northern side of the Wallowas) about 11 P.M. After being reminded what a nighttime sky looks like without heavy light pollution, we rapidly tented up in the lights of our BOVINE (Botanical Operations Vehicle In the NE -- an '82 Suburban -- thank you OSU), bedded down, and slept to river music. Monday morning, one CB (coffee/bagels) led to another. CB (Carex/Botrychium) Master PZ trained us to use our eyes, nose and knees in the customary fashion of a grape-fern-on-the-brain Botrychium stalk stalker. In addition to the three species in the meadow adjacent to our campsite, six other species of these diminutive delights would be added to our list by the end of the trip. We enjoyed the afternoon further up the valley developing a solid but expanding Carex list, each of us enthusiastically exhorting embarrassing exclamations upon discovery of a "new" species. And, we glimpsed a northern goshawk!

Our second day led us past Wallowa Lake and up the Mt. Howard gondola. (We polled the gondoliers, but none were Venetian.) Admiring Lomatium greenmanii, Penstemon spatulatus, and a host of sedges provided us with a full afternoon—even though we had managed to hike less than 3/4 of a mile from the top of the tram. We viewed some of the Wallowa peaks to the south and west,

the agricultural quilt pattern blanketing the Wallowa River valley to the north, and an impressive smoke plume (and a second, quite unimpressive plume) over the Seven Devils to the east. We caught the last tram home at 5 P.M., dined finely on Enterprise pizza, and returned, satisfied and sated, to our Lostine very base camp. BW religiously tended to pressing business each evening of our trip -- logging collection data and delicately squashing judiciously collected specimens for the OSU Herbarium, or BW's secret fescue laboratory (reputedly, about a mile beneath Corvallis).

On day three, we began by assisting KK with some "meter running" plots. (Although she professes to conducting a somewhat hushed and rather rushed study of Carex rhizome morphology, there is a rumor that her releve plots will be the basis of a water ballet for C. aquatilis starring C. nova, with music by Sister Sedge.) We ran into Marty Stein (a Wallowa-Whitman National Forest ranger district botanist) at the groovy cafe in Enterprise, and arranged an evening rendezvous at camp. Then, we stormed Hurricane Creek. Limestone=calcium=endemics. Great and small Carex and Botrychium abounded. Beautiful creek Avalanche chutes. Marty, and awesomely-cute offspring Alex, beat us back to camp, and stayed to chat with us around the 'ol' Coleman stove while the light faded. An Idaho State University researcher dropped in to quiz PZ about aquatic plant sites, for an upcoming book. Alex enjoyed watching the small flame of the stove. We heard he had already found his first Botrychium, and he seemed intent on finding his second in the big dinner salad bowl (...perhaps...).

All knowing that the unknown Elkhorn Mountains awaited was our only reason for departure on Thursday morning. After a risky, but rewarding railroad track reconnaissance for Carex cusickii (William Cusick's name and "unique" handwriting grace many herbarium sheets from the Wallowas), and a few other stops for sedge-food-gasspam-sedge-bathroom-sedge and what-have-you, we finally met patient CWG activists Danna Lytien and Nick Otting at their posh summer retreat, the Starkey Guard Station. They took a short break from their riparian studies to lead us on botanical expeditions for the next day and a half. Thursday afternoon we botanized the moist meadows of Grand Ronde Lake, headwaters of the Grande Ronde River and home of spectacular blue clumps of Gentiana calycosa. On Friday, Paula Brooks (head botanist of the WWNF) led us to her favorite x-c skiing and botanizing, grounds, Hof-

fer Lakes. Beginning at Anthony Lake, we as-

cended to botanical heaven at the rapid botanist's pace of 3/4 of a mile in just under 2 hours, an improvement over Mt. Howard. Our near-exertion was rewarded by the view of Hoffer Lakes and their backdrop of polished granite, and by finding a healthy population of *C. praeceptorum*. After PZ taught us the finer points of distinguishing this rare species from two impostors₃, we gathered data for an ONHP sighting report and headed/hoofed back down. We spent the remains of the day at Anthony Lake, locating a few more *C. praeceptorum*, and gathering a few *Juncus* and *Isoetes* specimens for the herbarium, as well.

Nearly awake, with presses full, we opted for the scenic route home on Saturday, leaving coyote howls, great horned owls and Elkhorns at 6:15 A.M. We broke fasts in a big way in Mt. Vernon, and collected some new data (mostly *C. nudata*) (sorry) along our route. Arrived in Corvallis: 4:30 P.M. For you number nuts, here are the final trip stats: tires flat = 0; plants flat (i.e. pressed specimens) = 110; fish caught in our Wallowa = 0; *Botrychium* spp. seen = 9; *Carex* spp. seen = 37; ONHP sighting reports = 4; perceived mileage = 224,000

Thank you Marty, Paula, Nick and Danna for sharing your favorite plant places with us. The CWG has conducted bot-swats at Crater Lake, in north-central Oregon, the Siskiyous, and the northwest coast of Oregon, in the last 12 months. Catch future CWG escapades in future Bulletins. Contact the CWG at 737-2313 for more info.

Submitted by Bruce Newhouse, on behalf of the Carex Working Group

- 1. Not a verb, but nonetheless, useful in this instance.
- 2. Verbing trouble, again.
- 3. One of these sedges, he alleges, inhabits edges of ledges, and the other one grows beneath hedges.. (Personally, I doubt this.)

(Editor's note: The editor candidly confesses that he can't claim credit for the curiously concinnated concatenation of consonants conceived by the contributing *Carex* correspondents. Collectively?)

Plant Puzzle

Sponsored by the Siskiyou Chapter

Do you recognize this native shrub? It does not grow east of the Cascades crest. The first person to give the correct scientific name will win a prize.

Send your guess on a postcard to: Peter Zika, 4230 NW Clubhouse Pl., #1 Corvallis, Oregon 97330



Ray Prag of Williams was the first to solve the September puzzle, twinflower, *Linnaea borealis*.

Oregon Rare Plant Conference

sponsored by the Native Plant Society of Oregon

in cooperation with the Oregon Natural Heritage Program, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, the US Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management

November 4 and 5 1994 in Bend, OR

This every-other year conference is the opportunity for botanists from across the state and from various agencies to assist in updating the listing status of Oregon's rare plant species. Anyone with information relating to Oregon's rare plants is welcome to attend.

Schedule:

Fri Nov 4	11:30 AM	Registration starts (\$10 by mail or at door)
	1:00 PM	Conference starts
	1:20	Update by ODA
	1:40	Update by BLM
	2:00	Update by USFS
	2:20	Listing updates and determinations facilitated by
	to 5:30	ONHP, ODA, USFS, BLM, and/or NPSO
	6:30	Informal social get-together, to be announced
Sat Nov 5	8:30 AM to 5:30 PM	o 5:30 PM Listing updates with lunchbreak Conference Adjournment

Please send Sue Vrilakas, Heritage Program, 1205 NW 25th, Portland, OR 97210, 229-5078 information on specific taxa that you wish to have considered. A handout will be prepared and available at registration. We will be able to show slides of species during the conference.

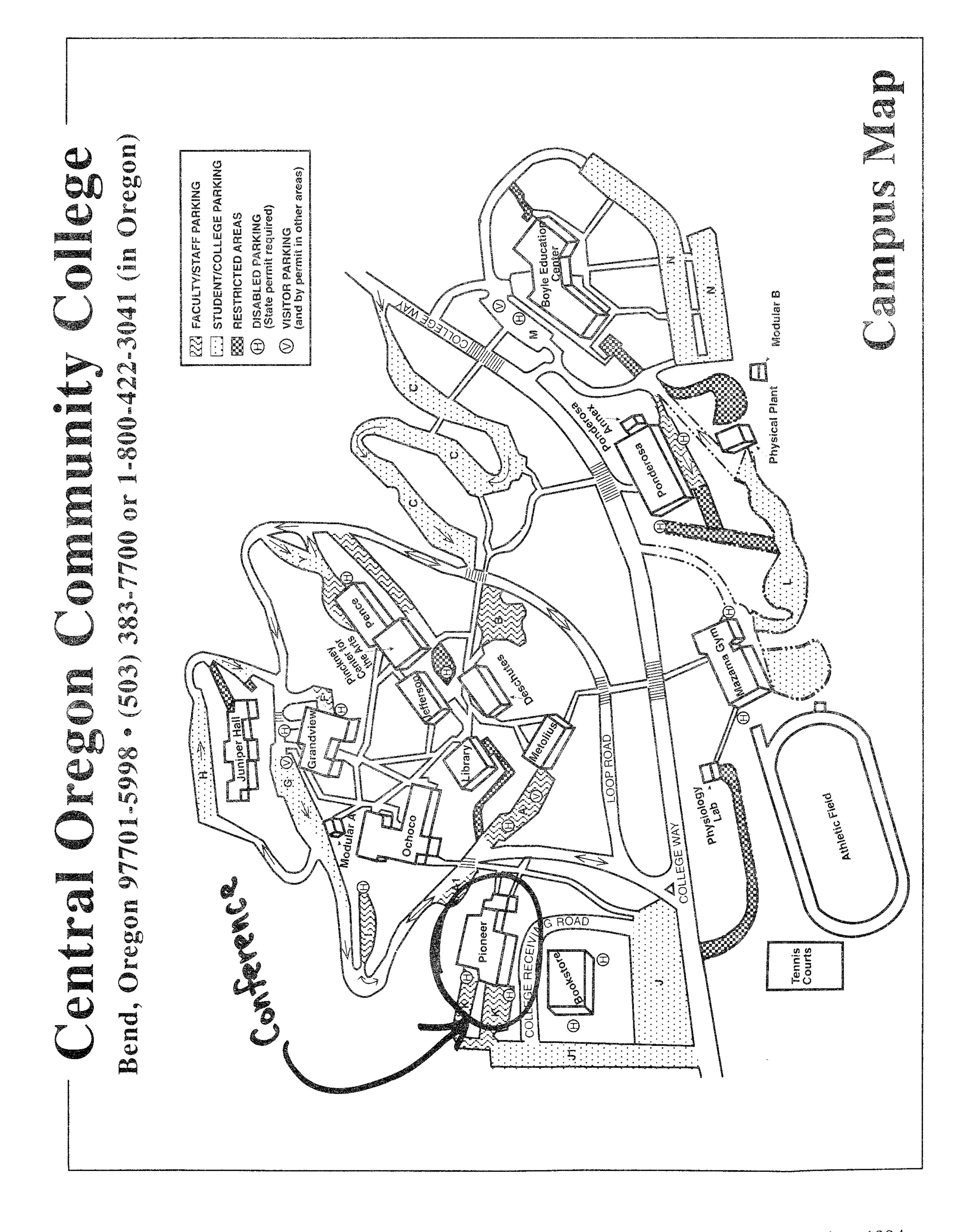
Accommodations will be at the attendees' choice. Motel options within two to three miles of COCC include: Red Lion 382-8384, Best Western Woodstone Inn 382-1515, Rainbow Motel 382-1821, Motel West 800-282-5577, and Cimarron Motel 382-7711.

The Conference will be held at the Hitchcock Auditorium in Pioneer Hall at Central Oregon Community College, NW College Way on the west side of Bend on the hill. To get there take Greenwood/Newport about one mile west of downtown Bend and turn north on College Way. Pioneer Hall is .9 miles down on the east side of College Way, just uphill from the bookstore. See map.

You may <u>register ahead by mail and avoid a line</u> or register the morning of the conference. Registration covers conference attendance, light snacks and drinks, and a mailed copy of the updated listing booklet. To register by mail send (by Oct 26) a check for \$10 made out to NPSO to Stu Garrett, 21663 Paloma Dr., Bend, OR 97701. Call Stu for questions: eves after 9 PM: 389-6981 or days 382-2811 ext 267

Planned and organized by the High Desert Chapter, Native Plant Society of Oregon

PLEASE NOTE: The success of the Rare Plant Conference depends on participants completing the rare species pre-work. To receive your pre-work packet, send a stamped and self-addressed envelope, with your registration.



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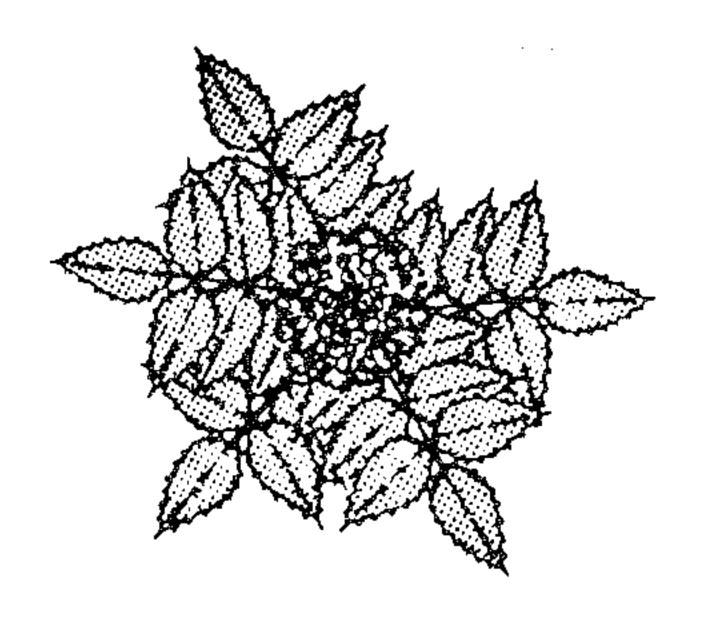
In this issue

President's Column Bruce Rittenhouse	122 123
New Members	
Environmental Laws in Danger	125
Plants With Scary Names Tom Kaye	125 125
Catherine Creek Alert Russ Jolley	126 126 126
Phose wallowing Sedgeneads Bruce Newhouse	128

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON

General Business Address: P. O. Box 902, Eugene, OR 97440 or correspond directly with the Officers and Committee Chairs listed on the inside back page. Membership Inquiries Only: Jan Dobak, 2584 NW Savier St., Portland, OR 97210-2412

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